Partnerships Authorities and

Partnership Functions

- Receipt of donated funds
- Transfer funds to nonprofit
- Shift of management responsibilities
- Work with cooperating association
- Acceptance of in-kind donations/services
- Partner will undertake fundraising campaign
- Exchange/transfer funds with a federal agency

Menu of Agreements and Partnering Tools

- MOU/MOA
- Volunteer Agreement
- Contribution
- Challenge Partnership
- Cooperating Association Agreement
- Lease/License
- Economy Act
- Other Tools - concessions, contracts, special event permits

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- **Does an organized group want to assist with long term missions such as natural resources management, visitor service activities?**
  - MOA, MOU - coordination agreement that spells out responsibilities of each partner
    - Cannot be used to obligate or receive funds
    - Signed by district commander

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- **Is an individual or group offering in-kind services (only labor)?**
  - Volunteer Agreement (signed by OPM)
    - Agreement spells out scope of work
    - OPM at risk if proper training is not provided

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- **Is an individual or group offering to give us something without conditions?**
  - Contributions Authority
    - No formal agreement
    - Must be contained in the OMP
    - Must have a contributions plan
    - Cannot accept real property

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- Does an organized group want to assist with cash, materials and/or in-kind services?
- Is there a need to transfer funding to USACE?
- Is grant funding from the partner involved?
- Is this a short term, definable project?

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- Challenge Partnership
  - Under $25k signed by OPM
  - Share amount determined by mutual agreement
  - Allows USACE to accept funds or materials and apply them to the project
  - On USACE operated lands; cannot be used with lessees
  - Agreements are not cooperative agreements as defined in the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977(Assistance Authority)
  - Cannot accept real estate

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- **Does an organized group operate as a “friends group” with capability to raise funds or sell merchandise?**
  - Cooperating Association (Cooperative Agreement)
    - Refers to a legal entity organized under state law
    - Enjoys a nonprofit tax-exempt status under IRS codes as a 501(c)(3)

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- Agreement spells out how profit will be used
- Ability to conduct special events that raise funds
- Sales of educational items only

- Concessionaire and special event permits
  - Allow sales merchandise and food items that require competition

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- **Does an organized group want to jointly operate an area or assist USACE with long term maintenance?**
  - Lease or License
    - Authorizes use of government property or transfers management responsibility
    - Standard clauses cannot be changed
    - Joint management capability for fish and wildlife but not for recreation
    - “non-traditional” leases

Partnering Authorities
Which one do I use?

- **Does another federal agency want to jointly fund a product or manage an area?**
  - Economy Act
    - Funds are available
    - Ordering agency determines that it is in the best interest of the government.
    - Ordering agency decides that ordered goods or services cannot be provided as conveniently or cheaply by contract with commercial enterprise.
    - Determination and Findings (D&F) document, prepared by the ordering agency.

Transition Memo

- Intended to focus on establishing and maintaining community relationships associated with ongoing partnerships and collaborative work.
- Is not intended to be a comprehensive list of activities and/or projects.
- Partnership and collaborative efforts that have formal agreements in place should be referenced with a brief description of the activity to date.

Transition Memo

- Describe the current partnership and collaborative efforts underway at your project.
- Commitments or schedules associated with current partnership and collaborative efforts.
- Current working agreements or procedures.
- Strategy for meeting and getting to know your community.

References

Other Agency Websites

- National Park Service Partnerships
- Bureau of Land Management - Partnerships
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program
- U.S. Forest Service - Partnership Resource Center

- USACE Partnership Philosophy and Talking Points
- Working with Congressional Staff
- Partnership Checklist
- Partners in Action –Success stories
- Partnerships 101
- Transition Memo

http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/partners.html